

REMARKS

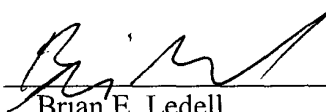
By this preliminary amendment, Applicants have amended the specification and abstract. Applicants have also cancelled claims 1-45 and added new claims 46-69. Support for the new claims can be found at a number of places in the originally filed specification, including, for example, Fig. 3 and pages 9 and 10. Favorable examination of these claims is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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ABSTRACT

A network device bundles packet over synchronous optical network (POS) data stream and asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) data stream into a synchronous optical network (SONET) data stream. The POS data stream and the ATM data stream are virtual channels or tributaries of the SONET data stream. The SONET data stream may be transmitted over a single optical fiber.